

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Issue Date: 07/15/2008

Comment Deadline: 08/15/2008

Corps Action ID #: SAW- 2008-02132

The Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application from North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services seeking Department of the Army authorization to impact 720 linear feet of stream associated with installing a culvert to alleviate safety concerns and erosion problems at the Caswell Center in Kinston, Lenoir County, North Carolina.

Specific plans and location information are described below and shown on the attached plans. This Public Notice and all attached plans are also available on the Wilmington District Web Site at www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands

Applicant:

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Attention: Ron Fuller 2001 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2001

NC DHHS, Caswell Center

Mr. Jennings Outlaw 2415 W. Vernon Avenue Kinston, NC 28504

**AGENT** (if applicable):

Michelle Clemments, P.E.

Post Office Box 7305

Greenville, North Carolina 27834

# **Authority**

The Corps will evaluate this application and a decide whether to issue, conditionally issue, or deny the proposed work pursuant to applicable procedures Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

#### Location

The project is located at the Caswell Center, a 750 acre property on the north side of US 70 Business at the corner of US 70 Business and North Carolina State Road 1557, in and adjacent to an unnamed stream, tributary to the Neuse River, in Kinston, Lenoir County, North Carolina (35.2735 -77.6124).

# **Existing Site Conditions**

The project is located within an existing channelized stream bed on the east side of the Caswell Center campus. The Caswell Center is a facility which provides services to individuals with mental retardation and their families. Staff at the center provides services to 450 residents and additional individuals who reside in the community. The campus contains schools, medical services, residence halls and administrative buildings. The site is located in a developed section of Kinston, adjacent to the Vernon Park Mall. Adjacent land use includes residential, commercial and agricultural. A majority of the existing stream has been culverted in the past, and portions of the Vernon Park Mall and Caswell Center were constructed over the culverts.

# **Applicant's Stated Purpose**

The stated purpose of the project is to remove a safety hazard on the Caswell Center campus and to stop erosion and incision of the existing channel.

# **Project Description**

The applicant proposes culvert and fill the subject stream located on the east side of the property, adjacent to the Vernon Park Mall. Work includes installation of 720 feet of culvert within the channelized and incised stream. Approximately 580 cubic yards of fill material will be placed below the ordinary high water mark, filling of 0.17 acres of jurisdictional waters. No wetlands will be impacted by this work.

## Other Required Authorizations

This notice and all applicable application materials are being forwarded to the appropriate State agencies for review. The Corps will generally not make a final permit decision until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (PL 92-500). The receipt of the application and this public notice combined with the appropriate application fee at the North Carolina Division of Water Quality in Raleigh will constitute initial receipt of an application for a 401 Water Quality Certification. A waiver will be deemed to occur if the NCDWQ fails to act on this request for certification within sixty days of the date of the receipt of this notice in the NCDWQ Central Office. Additional information regarding the Clean Water Act certification may be reviewed at the NCDWQ Central Office, 401 Oversight and Express Permits Unit, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard,

Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260. All persons desiring to make comments regarding the application for certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act should do so in writing delivered to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ), 1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1650 Attention: Ms Cyndi Karoly by 08/11/2008.

#### **Essential Fish Habitat**

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Corps' initial determination is that the proposed project will not adversely impact EFH or associated fisheries managed by the South Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Councils or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

#### **Cultural Resources**

The Corps has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and is not aware that any registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are located within the project area or will be affected by the proposed work. Presently, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be located within the project area and/or could be affected by the proposed work.

# **Endangered Species**

The Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant and consulted the latest North Carolina Natural Heritage Database. Based on available information, the Corps has determined pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, that the proposed project will have no effect on federally listed endangered or threatened species or their formally designated critical habitat.

### **Evaluation**

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain

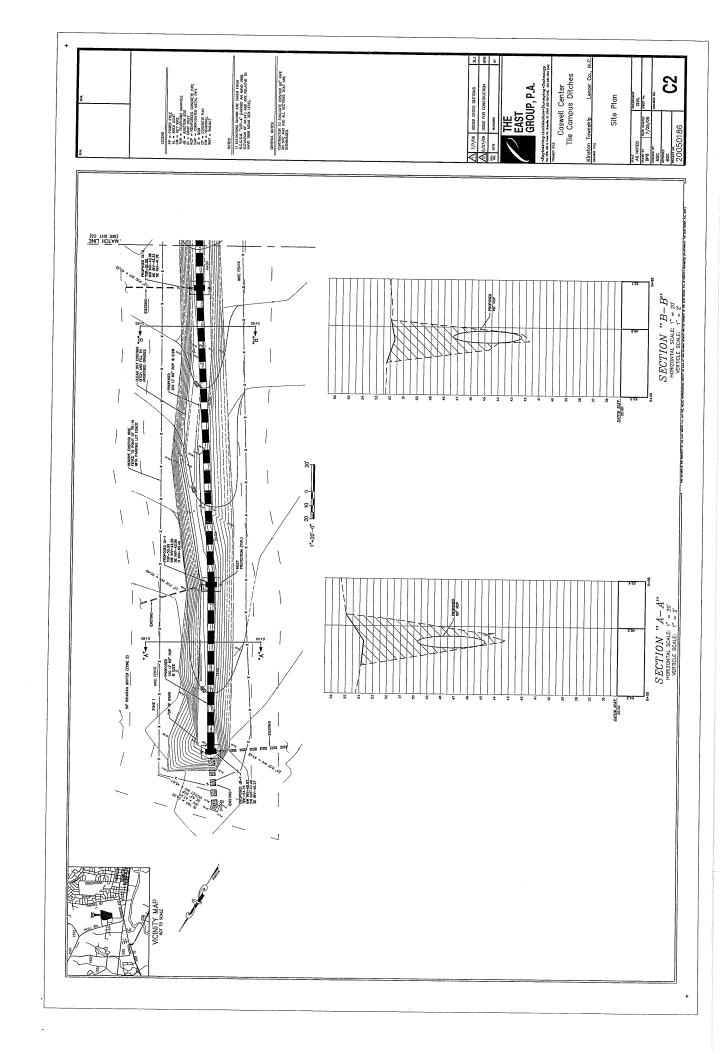
values (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill materials in waters of the United States, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines.

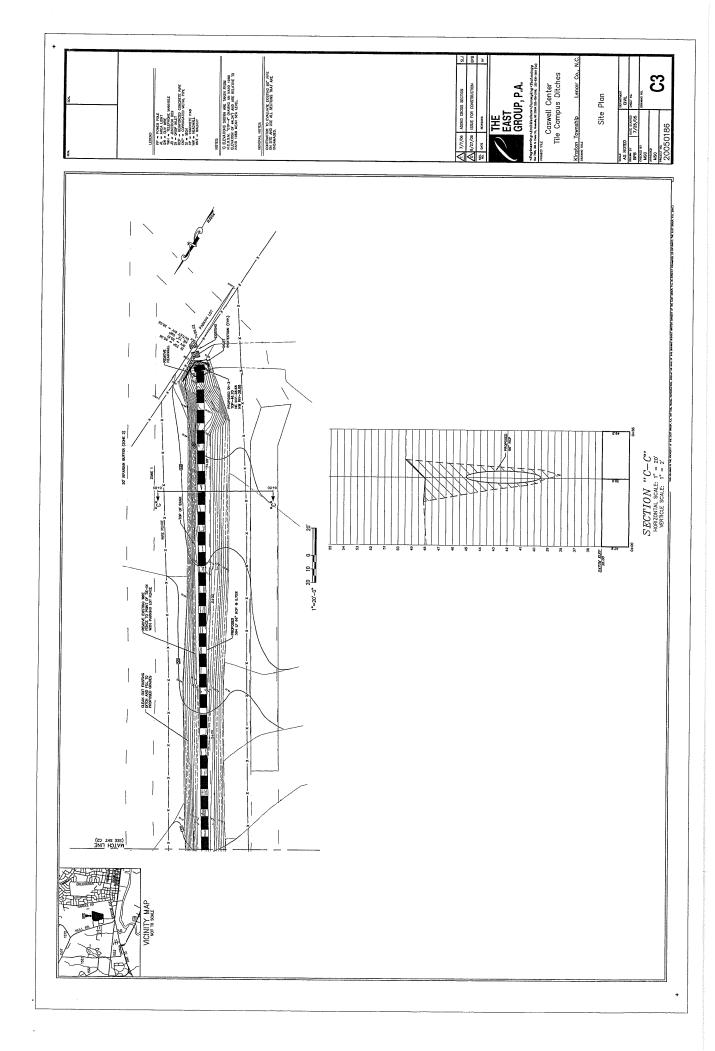
# **Commenting Information**

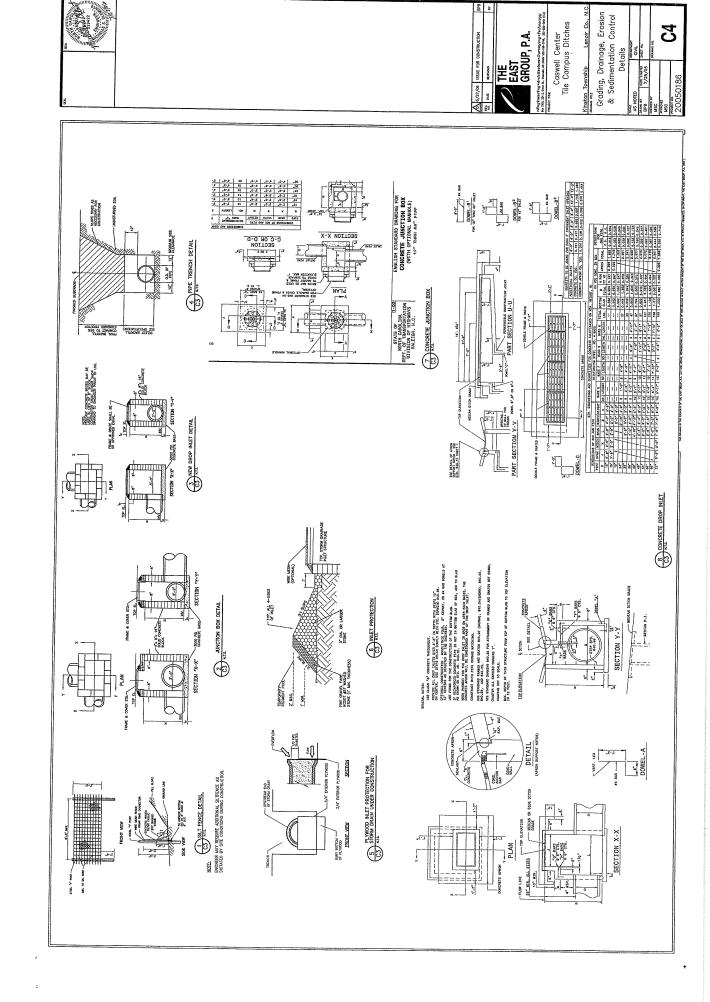
The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials, including any consolidate State Viewpoint or written position of the Governor; Indian Tribes and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing shall be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

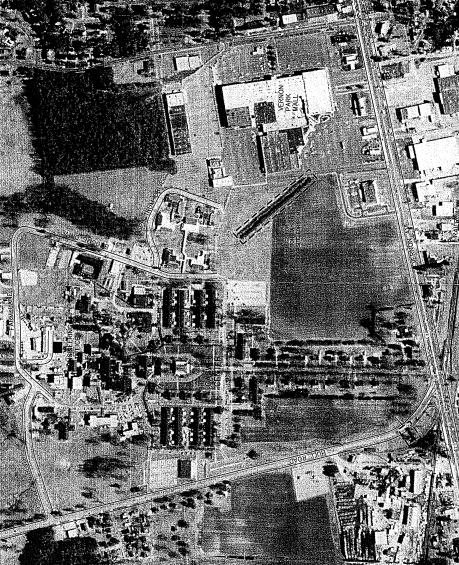
Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received by the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, until 5pm, 08/15/2008. Comments should be submitted to Mr. David L. Shaeffer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Post Office Box 1000, Washington, North Carolina 27889.







# ප Composite Plan SCO: #040634001



CASWELL CENTER, KINSTON, NC

TILE CAMPUS DITCHES ITEM: #4E01

CODE: #40451